I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 29, 2008

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – EXAMINING GROUP 3735

> PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 021063-000510US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ART BERTOLERO et al.

Application No.: 10/731,683

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR

CARDIAC SURGERY

Customer No.: 20350

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed July 3, 2008, please enter the

following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

Confirmation No. 3268

Examiner: Christine D. Hopkins

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3735

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING

GROUP 3735